



EMILY COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY

DATE: March 6, 2014
FROM: Robert Olson
TO: Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Staff
SUBJECT: Expression of Interest – Rural Trials Docket No. 10-90

Background

Emily Cooperative Telephone Company (“Emily”) is a rural ILEC serving north central Minnesota communities¹ with fiber based facilities. Emily completed a FTTH project funded by the Rural Utilities Service in 2009 and by the end of 2010 all members of the cooperative were served by FTTH. Emily’s offices are located in Emily, Minnesota. Emily is a designated ETC in its ILEC service areas, and will petition the Minnesota Commission for ETC designation when awarded funding for this project.

Project Description

ECTC proposes a last-mile broadband project, using FTTH technology, to bring affordable and reliable broadband access to unserved and underserved areas in Crow Wing and Aitkin Counties in Minnesota. Specifically, ECTC will expand its footprint to serve adjacent rural areas surrounding and north of Cuyuna and Trommald, MN (“Proposed Service Area”).

The project will leverage ECTC middle mile fiber facilities to serve the Proposed Service Area. ECTC will provide these customers with broadband and POTS services to customers beyond the footprint where CenturyLink and Charter currently offer broadband. If funded, ECTC subscribers will have access to high-speed broadband services and more extensive video services that will enhance the quality of life, spur economic development in rural MN, and improve services delivered by critical community and public safety entities.

Technology to be Deployed

ECTC will deploy FTTH technology to extend its current broadband system. The network will include fiber cable which typically has a 30-35 year life. The network architecture is Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) based, which is capable of upstream and downstream speeds of 1 Gbps split up by to 32 customers per PON. GPON is specified to go to 60 KM, but, due to limitations with lasers and the cost of the equipment, the solution ECTC is proposing is only capable of 40 KM with an 8-way split depending on cable loss. Unlike with DSL or wireless technologies, with GPON and Active Ethernet even the subscribers farthest out enjoy the same bandwidth and performance as the subscribers close to the electronics, meaning no limitations as distance increases.

Locations to be Served

¹ City of Emily, City of Fifty Lakes, Little Pine Township and Fairfield Township in Crow Wing County, Minnesota

The proposed service area is a very rural part of Crow Wing County. The Cuyuna Police and Fire Departments are anchor locations in the Proposed Service Area which are currently unserved with broadband. The census blocks listed in Attachment A include currently unserved areas. Attachment B is a map of the areas to be served. Our best estimate of the customers served is 177.

Services to be offered

ECTC will offer voice broadband and video over the proposed broadband network. Pricing will be competitive with services currently provided in the Proposed Service Area. Representative pricing is as follows:

Service	Residence	Business
Voice Service	\$14	\$20.50

Data Services

6 Mbps/1 Mbps	\$59.95
10 Mbps/1 Mbps	\$79.95
20 Mbps/2 Mbps	\$89.95

Video Voice Data Bundle

Bundle: \$117.95

Voice	Local telephone with voicemail with email notification, Caller ID, Call Waiting, Call Forwarding and 3-Way Calling
Data	10 Mbps/1 Mbps
Video	Expanded Digital

Funding

ECTC seeks \$1,400,00 in one time funding to complete this project.

Project Timeline

ECTC will be ready to begin the project within 12 months of the date funding is acquired.



Robert Olson
CEO/GM

THE BLOCKS SHOWN AS UNSERVED (N/A) are listed following.

270017703002022	270359505021000
270359501002131	270359505021009
270359501002134	270359505021010
270359501002145	270359507001002
270359501002156	270359507001005
270359501002159	270359507001013
270359501002178	270359507001016
270359501002179	270359507001017
270359501002196	270359507001018
270359501002206	270359507001021
270359501002216	270359507001048
270359501002218	270359507002000
270359501002220	270359507002006
270359501002222	270359507002010
270359501002228	270359507002027
270359501002230	270359507002031
270359502042085	

